

# Minutes Community/Directors Meeting

5th March 2016

Time: 9:00am - 12.30pm

Minute Taker: Mairead

Chair / Facilitator: Paul



**Members / Directors / Deputy Directors attending:** Callum Lawson, Peter O'Hara, Roger & Belinda Ball, Paul Martin, Tarrik Morssi, Dan Rose, Louise Watters, Tony Roberts, Al Hunter, Mairead Shorten, Luke Keenan, Julica Jungehuelising (Deputy for Anne Wilson), Denise Cobourn (Deputy for Rose Mahar), Craig Singleman (D), Kevin Harper (D), Ralph Erthel (D),

**Apologies:** Anne W, Satwa, Mohini, Rose, Bronwyn, Wayne, Denis, Sue

**Visitors:** Jay Keenan & Anadean Douglas (Guests of Luke & Isbhel)

**Confirm Previous minutes,** proposed by Denise, seconded by Julica, all in favour.

## Business Arising

- **Signs** - Dust signs are a custom order. Need to decide what we want on them. Email Denise with ideas.
- **Revisions to finance policy**, To be workshopped in relation to 'Joint Share Ownership' and 'Refunds', need to include bylaw on acceptable documents and policy in the event of a member dying. Not sure who is workshopping it. Ralph to ask John to provide an update for next meeting. *(Addendum: Up-date received post meeting that Sue Loudon has been working on changes with John)*

## Secretary

- Nothing much to report, usual bills received and paid
- Correspondence from Council re: approval of engineering specs for camp kitchen roof extension
- Letter from Lawyer in Ballina (see DA report)

## Treasury

- See treasury report published on website
- Total available funds \$220,025.29
- Discussion on inactive members with aged debts:
  - Ben Adams, not picked up correspondence at either address, Treasurer to exhaust remaining contact options with him (text, email) and come back to next meeting with update.
  - Grant Woolcock, picked up first letter, Treasurer to follow usual procedures
  - Justin and Leah - Letter to be sent from Secretary requesting they meet with directors to discuss their financial affairs and agree a way forward (Craig and Anne will abstain from meeting). Treasurer to follow usual procedures.
- Use of Debt Collectors, see general business
- Adopt Treasurers report, Proposed by Roger, Seconded by Ralph - 1 abstain, rest in favour.

## Roads

- George McKweon came out to assess roads and quoted \$23,000 for works on Frog Hollow, Illa langi to past camp kitchen, Nevertire, North Gate, Red Hill Road. Total tonnage of roadbase is 330. Works to commence next week or after Easter. All in Favour to go ahead. Thanks to Ralph.

## DA

- Peter been following up with Councillors to arrange meetings with them and encourage a site visit. Secured a speaking slot at March 15th March Council meeting to address Councillors.
- Still getting the run around from Council staff regarding a meeting with them. Peter and Ralph repeatedly followed up on our January letter where we requested a meeting with Director of Environment Robert Pitt. Pitt or senior staff are not making themselves available or responding. Got verbal commitment for a meeting with Shane Rheinhold (Planner) and Les Palwak (Compliance Officer), but still no date/time.
- Peter met Local Member Melinda Pavey. She took a copy of S.96, was sympathetic and gave a commitment to the speak to Mayor. Not her direct responsibility, but may have some influence.
- Advice from lawyer is that we have been denied procedural fairness

- Options open to us: (1) request councillors rescind the decision on procedural grounds (this is at their discretion), thus setting the decision aside; (2) we request a S.96AB review of the decision which means the decision will be reviewed and voted on again by Councillors; (3) bring Class 4 Proceeding in the Land Environment Court to get decision set aside; (4) make a complaint to ICAC or Ombudsman. Note winning on procedural issues is not enough, we still need to get the road access condition changed from Type 3. Advice from lawyer is that unless the decision is changed or set aside, the date for lodging appeal in Land Environment Court still stands as June.
- More road engineering input may be required, e.g. detailed costings, up-dated traffic counts.. If funds for this are required before next meeting, DA committee will seek approval through a majority board decision
- Intend to engage with neighbours on Nevertire regarding road issue. Michael Clancy and Ishbel offered to help. Ishbel offered to be the Goolawah's Community Liaison Contact. Introductory letter from Ishbel to neighbours read to the meeting. Supported with some edits required. DA Committee to follow up with Ishbel.

## Membership / Guests

- Gunther, Membership Applicant, no specific share (Rebekah processing) - still interested, but not in a hurry
- Andy, Membership Application, Cindy 2nd share (Paul processing) - still promising action but not delivering
- Deb, Joint Membership with Dave Van Meg - Deb advised she now has police record available and ready to progress application, Mairead will hand over historical paperwork to Lexie to process.
- Jay, Guest of Luke & Ishbel (Paul processing) - paperwork and police record in, will call a meeting for members to discuss
- George, Guest - Tarrik's guest for now, committee member to be assigned and contact George re: application process. Could Rebekah take on this application?
- Shares available: Rodney Foreshaw, James Cox Estate (3 Shares), Vivienne Armitage
- Not many online enquiries from potential members at the moment, some local people interested.
- Check if wording in guest paperwork regarding fees is correct

## Machinery

- Work on-going on light duty slasher, thanks to Frankie
- Tractor fine
- Fire Striker - 1984 Hilux purchased in Sydney and drove home by Paul, went well on the highway. Working bee next Tuesday to transfer major equipment. Lindsey RFS Captain invited to come out and advise on set up. Budget of \$6,000 is on track. Leave registered until rego runs out in July. Once set up, will do some instruction sessions with members. Thanks to everyone involved.

## Work Claims - None

## General Business

- **Red Hill Fire Shelter** - pegged out, next step pouring footings. Need to demonstrate reasonable progress on construction as it is a DA Consent Condition.
- **Camp Kitchen Roof Extension** - Council Building Inspector Lyn Kingma back, inspected holes all OK. Commented on how big the temporary Building Inspector had insisted the holes be made.
- **Old Tyres** from Machinery Shed clean out - anyone welcome to take, otherwise bring to tip by end of April
- **Gas Hot Water Service** - question about who owns it, answer is the Co-op
- **Hot Water Tank** - no use for it at present, put on Goolawah Facebook buy/swap/sell
- **Lantana** in wildlife corridor between Chris and Walter - put on next working bee list
- **Work Claims for setting up new Fire Striker** - ok to submit claims, refer to job list for approved category
- **Debt Collection Agency.** Discussion of information from local Debt Collect Agency. Resolution to go forward from this meeting to April GM that Goolawah use debt collection services as a tool to recover debts from members who have not been paid up members for 2 years. Decision to be made a case-by-case basis by a meeting. Proposed and seconded by meeting. 9 in favour, 2 Abstain, 0 Against. Rationale: its another tool besides share forfeiture and eviction when members do not make reasonable plans/arrangements with the Co-operative to repay aged debts and regain active financial membership; members don't want to be debt collectors nor should we ask them to be; people take debt collection agencies seriously; such agencies are effective in the collection of debts; it has worked well for other communities; any costs incurred by Goolawah from use of a debt collection agency would be passed on as a charge to the debtors.
- **Chair for Next Meeting** - Craig